

Shropshire Partnership e-Bulletin

March 2010

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Welcome to the Shropshire Partnership's quarterly e-bulletin for all those interested in Local Strategic Partnership activities and issues in Shropshire. This bulletin aims to summarise of all the main developments that have taken place across the partnership and over the last three months. If you have information you would like to contribute to the e-bulletin, please contact Jenny McNicol, Partnership Coordinator on 01743 252248 or email jenny.mcnicol@shropshire.gov.uk. If your name appears on more than one of our mailing lists you may receive this email more than once. Please accept our apologies if this causes you any inconvenience.

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Shropshire's Community Strategy 2010-2020 approved

Key Facts	<p>The final version of Shropshire's Community Strategy was approved by Shropshire Council's Cabinet and Full Council, and the Shropshire Partnership's Leadership Board at meetings on the 24th, 25th and 26th February respectively. The document's approval follows a long process of consultation in which many stakeholders and residents were involved. The document outlines 3 priorities and 16 outcomes for delivery over the coming decade and has a vision of 'A Flourishing Shropshire' for 2020.</p> <p>Work is well underway to develop a delivery plan to accompany Shropshire's Community Strategy and it is anticipated this will be available for consideration by the Leadership Board in June 2010, with likely commencement from September 2010.</p>
Action Points and Key Dates	<p>To view Shropshire's Community Strategy in a full text version and as an executive summary please visit the Shropshire Partnership's website: http://www.2shrop.net/2shropnet/AToZOfMini-sites/S/ShropshirePartnership/CommunityStrategy.</p> <p>To receive a CD-ROM of the document which includes the Community Strategy Evidence Base and consultation responses, please contact the Shropshire Partnership team on 01743 252269 / shropshire.partnership@shropshire.gov.uk</p>

Pride of Shropshire Awards 2010 launched

<p>Key Facts</p>	<p>The Shropshire Partnership is pleased to announce the launch of the 2010 Pride of Shropshire Awards which is an annual award scheme hosted jointly by the Shropshire Partnership and the Shropshire Star and cosponsored by Muller. The awards were announced in the Shropshire Star on 29th January and partners are urged to promote them widely and make nomination recommendations.</p> <p>This year, the search is once again under way for an overall champion, who will be chosen from the winners of nine individual categories, which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best New Business Idea Award • Courage Award • Good Neighbour Award • Environmental Project Award • Special Young Person Award • Healthy Life Award • Community Group Award • Carer Award • Learner Award
<p>Action Points and Key Dates</p>	<p>The closing date for nominations is Saturday 28th March. The awards will culminate in a presentation ceremony on 10th June at STFC. To find out more about the awards or to make a nomination please visit the Pride of Shropshire website at http://pride.shropshirestar.com/</p>

Shropshire Partnership External Funding Strategy Consultation launched - 20th January 2010

<p>Key Facts</p>	<p>The Regenerating Shropshire event took place in November 2009 and delegates were fully supportive of the need to develop a new Shropshire Partnership External Funding Strategy which will replace the existing 2007 strategy which is no longer fit for purpose.</p> <p>The strategy is important and will underpin delivery of the priorities and actions in the Community Strategy and Local Development Framework and partners know they cannot stand still and will need to do things differently if they are to continue to secure the additional external funding needed.</p> <p>A Task and Finish group, chaired by West Mercia Police and involving partners from a broad range of agendas has been established to develop the strategy.</p>
<p>Action Points and Key Dates</p>	<p>Consultation on the draft strategy was launched on 20 January 2010 and Shropshire's partners and</p>

	<p>stakeholders are encouraged to provide feedback on the document. A series of meetings have also been arranged with regional stakeholders such as Advantage West Midlands, Arts Council, BIG Lottery, Sport England, Heritage Lottery Fund, Department of Work and Pensions. The consultation document and feedback form are available to download from the Shropshire Partnership consultation portal http://www.consultshropshire.org/shropshire/kms/dmart.aspx. The consultation will run until 13 April 2010.</p> <p>For further information please contact Fiona Fortune, Principal External Funding Officer on 01743 252979 (fiona.fortune@shropshire.gov.uk)</p>
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Leadership Board - 26th February 2010	
Key Facts	<p>At its February meeting the Leadership Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved the final version Community Strategy • Considered reports outlining an action framework to deliver the Community Strategy priorities and recommendations for improvements to the structure of the Shropshire Partnership • Discussed the establishment of an LSP baseline for Carbon reduction and the steps that will need to be taken by partners to reduce CO2 emissions • Received a report on the final LPSA2 Audit • Received an LAA performance exception report from the Children's Trust • Discussed the annual refresh of the Local Area Agreement
Action Points and Key Dates	<p>The next Leadership Board will take place on 11th June at 10am (Council Chamber, Shirehall)</p> <p>For more information please contact the Shropshire Partnership team on 01743 252269 (shropshire.partnership@shropshire.gov.uk)</p>

Health and Wellbeing Board - 2nd February 2010	
Key Facts	<p>The Health and Wellbeing Board held a workshop in December to refine work areas for 2010/11, making links to the delivery of the LAA outcomes and the Shropshire Community Strategy aims and 2020 priorities. These work areas will underpin the delivery plans for the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Health and Wellbeing Board also announced that it would be making £100,000 from the Performance Reward Grant allocated to the Board available for open bids from the voluntary and community sector and public sector to be used in 2010/11.</p>

	<p>At its February meeting the Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • considered the Q3 performance report, taking the lead role for LAA performance in Board's remit. • received a verbal report on the December workshop and the need for the identified work areas to become part of the delivery plans. • received presentations on the work being undertaken by Shropshire PCT to identify areas for disinvestment and priorities for investment, and on the new Cultural Strategy and the important links into health and wellbeing. • heard that the application process for the available funding was confirmed. Expressions of interest were asked for through the Voluntary and Community Sector Assembly and application forms were sent out to all interested parties. The successful applicants will be informed in early March. They will be asked to provide a small number of actions and milestones that will be included in the delivery plans and progress and impacts reported every six months.
<p>Action Points and Key Dates</p>	<p>Next meeting will take place on 12 May at 3pm (Wenlock Room, Shirehall).</p> <p>For more information on the items listed above please contact Tom Dodds (tom.dodds@shropshire.gov.uk)</p>

Sustainable Communities Steering Group - 27th January 2010

<p>Key Facts</p>	<p>At its January meeting the Sustainable Communities Steering Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considered the LAA performance report for Q3 and reviewed the LAA spend profile. • Considered progress in developing the new Sustainable Community (SC) Strategy 2020 and the development of an External Funding Strategy • Agreed to work with partners on three commissioning themes; economy, environment and housing which will enable actions to progress in support the emerging Community Strategy 2010-2020.
<p>Action Points and Key Dates</p>	<p>Next meeting will take place on 10th May at Shirehall, Shrewsbury.</p> <p>For more information on the items listed above please contact Caroline Reid (caroline.reid@shropshire.gov.uk)</p>

Safer, Stronger Communities Partnership Board - 25th January 2010

Key Facts	<p>At its January meeting the Safer Stronger Communities Partnership Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Considered the implementation recommendations of the Bradley Report which concerns people with mental health problems or learning disabilities in the criminal justice system• Received a presentation on the recent Review of Domestic Violence provision in Shropshire.• Received a progress report from the Performance Management and Commissioning Group• Received a presentation on the development of Integrated Offender Management in Shropshire• Considered the results of the recent audit into Anti-social behaviour victimisation• Heard about proposals for new Community Prescribing Services in Shropshire and considered Annual Treatment Plans which will be submitted to the National Treatment agency in mid-March• Considered the draft Communications Strategy and Funding structure for the SSCP in 2010/11• Received a report into Quarter 3 LAA performance
Action Points and Key Dates	<p>The next meeting will take place on 20th April at 1.30 pm at The Lantern, Shrewsbury</p> <p>For more information on the items listed above please contact Celia Bahrami (celia.bahrami@shropshire.gov.uk)</p>

Children's Trust - 21st January 2010

Key Facts	<p>At its January meeting the Children's Trust:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Considered a report from the Shropshire Safeguarding Children Board regarding governance. A joint meeting of the SCT and SSCB Executive Boards is taking place on the 5 March and a proposal will be brought to the April Trust meeting to discuss the outcomes and decisions of that meeting• Received an analysis of the outcomes of the recent Children's Trust Stakeholder event which will inform the development of the Trust. A further stakeholder day is planned for 8 March and it was agreed that a range of operational stakeholders will be invited along.• Had a discussion about the Children's Trust Statutory Guidance currently out for consultation• Received a report on Quarter 3 performance• Received a presentation from Shropshire County PCT on its Accident Prevention Strategy for Children and Young People. A multi-agency workshop is planned to take place in the near future to agree an action plan for Shropshire
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Action Points and Key Dates	<p>Next meeting will take place on 17th March at 2pm (Council Chamber, Guildhall).</p> <p>For more information on the items listed above please contact Joanne Hughes (joanne.hughes@shropshire.gov.uk)</p>
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Voluntary and Community Sector Assembly Board - 1st December 2009

Key Facts	<p>The Assembly continues to work closely with Shropshire Council and other partners on key projects. Examples include work to explore how infrastructure support for VCS groups and organisations may be improved through joint working and understanding best practice. Assembly members have also been working to implement the new Shropshire Compact. Roles undertaken by Assembly members have included leading work through the Compact Implementation Group and acting as Compact Champions. The Assembly continues to support effective representation on key local groups and partnerships. A representatives training day is booked for the 11th March.</p> <p>VCSA Competition The VCS Assembly is currently developing new information materials and would like a strap line explaining what the Assembly is all about. Are you creative? Good with words? Describe what the VCS Assembly does in fewer than 20 words and you could win cakes and biscuits to share with your team/group. Submit your entry to Sarah Dodds to be in with a chance of winning. Email: sarah.dodds@shropshire.gov.uk</p>
Action Points and Key Dates	<p>The next VCSA Board meeting will take place on 15th March, 1pm-3.30pm in the Oswestry Room, Shirehall.</p> <p>Other key dates: 11th March - Assembly Board Training Event 24th March - The Community Prosecutor Approach: a networking event</p> <p>If you would like to receive the VCS weekly email news or quarterly VCS Assembly Board Newsletter, which highlights key issues from VCS Assembly Board Meetings please contact the VCS Assembly Coordinator (sarah.dodds@shropshire.gov.uk or 01743 252295) or visit our website http://www.2shrop.net/shropvcsassembly.</p>

Shropshire Business Board - 25th January 2010

Key Facts

At its last meeting the Board:

- Received an update on the two task groups which are implementing elements of the Board's Business Plan. These focus on Local procurement – (seeking to improve procurement opportunities within the public sector for Shropshire's businesses, initially focusing on Shropshire Council's procurement policies and overcoming barriers which deter small local companies from tendering for work) and Raising the profile of Shropshire. The first of two meetings have been held to identify the key strengths of the county as a business location to inform the marketing and promotion of the county. The second meeting was held on 28th January and focussed on developing the unique marketing messages for Shropshire around issues that would truly influence a business's decision on whether to locate/stay/grow in the county.
- Received a update from the Chair of the Shropshire & Telford & Wrekin Destination Management Partnership (DMP) on the priorities and activities of the DMP. This was followed by a discussion on the Shropshire "offer" as a tourist destination and how it could be strengthened – including ensuring accommodation is of a consistently high quality and capitalising on the business tourism opportunities.
- Following a presentation of Shropshire Council's research into the extent and impact of poor broadband connectivity and speed is having on the county's business community, the Board discussed how they could influence and lobby on the issue and respond to the Government's consultation on the proposed Next Generation Fund. An update was provided on local, regional and national initiatives designed to improve the situation. Representatives from BT attended the meeting. The research report can be downloaded at:
<http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/economicdevelopment.nsf/open/4D9ACC9FD43CDEDC802575E500309434>
- An update was given on the take up of the Shropshire Business Enterprise Fund, operated by Shropshire Council. Details of the Fund can be found at:
<http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/economicdevelopment.nsf/open/B8E5D737AF7866D48025765500304D1E>. In the first funding round since the scheme launched in December 2009, 150 enquiries resulted in 17 grants totalling £41,000 being awarded.
- A representative from the Bank of England gave a summary of the Bank's Business Conditions report and the Board discussed the ongoing impact of the recession, with particular regard to youth unemployment, apprenticeships and access to credit for businesses.

The Board were made aware of the key actions arising from the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills Partnerships for Growth document:

<http://www.berr.gov.uk/whatwedo/regional/growth/page53688.html> and were asked to respond to the Shropshire Partnership's External funding Strategy consultation (see item above).

Action Points and Key Dates	Future meetings will be held on 26th April, 12th July and 18th October 2010 . For more information please contact Jane Lycett on 01743 252525 (jane.lycett@shropshire.gov.uk)
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Central Area Partnership

Key Facts	<p>The Executive Board last met on 28 January 2010. The Board received an update on the review of partnership working being undertaken by the Scrutiny Task and Finish Group. A further 6 projects recommended through the delivery groups were considered for funding with 3 receiving the full amount applied for and one receiving funding in part. Further work was requested on the two remaining projects. The scope of projects supported covered safety activities for young people, alcohol advisory services, water conservation and local food production and promotion. A total of £129,793 out of the total partnership pot of £160,000 has now been committed. The final Executive Board meeting of 2009/10 takes place on 16th March when it is anticipated the remaining funds will be committed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The four delivery groups have met during January and February and continue to look in detail at issues and potential projects within the respective themes of sustainability and environment, community wellbeing, economy & transport, and community safety, as well as monitoring the impact of projects supported. Information is being shared on an increasing basis, and partners are increasingly looking to work together to address common local priorities. • The community safety delivery group is using local crime and ASB data and partner intelligence to inform its activity, and is becoming increasingly effective in both responsive and preventive action, achieving significant reductions in crime and ASB levels in the Central area. The majority of actions in the local delivery plan have been achieved, and funding allocated to it from the central CDRP pot will be fully committed.
Action Points and Key Dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Shropshire Partnership Executive Board 16 March and 18 May • Central Shropshire Partnership Delivery Group meetings are ongoing. Details available from www.shrop.net/shropshirepartnership and click on Area Partnerships <p>For more information please contact David Bell, Central Area Partnership Officer on david.bell@shropshire.gov.uk / 01743 252374</p>

Southern Area Partnership

<p>Key Facts</p>	<p>The Executive Board met on 8 December and received a performance report showing how well southern Shropshire was performing in meeting the LAA targets. The four delivery group chairs were asked to scrutinise the relevant sections at their next meetings.</p> <p>A further 16 projects recommended through the delivery groups were considered for funding with 12 receiving the full amount applied for and one receiving funding in part. The scope of projects supported covered activities for young people, care and advocacy initiatives, adult and young persons learning events, tourism, farmers markets and energy efficiency. A total of £138,408 out of the total partnership pot of £160,000 has now been committed. The final Executive Board meeting of 2009/10 takes place on 2nd March when the remaining funds will be committed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The four delivery groups met during February and looked in detail at issues and potential projects within the respective themes of environment, health & wellbeing, economy & lifelong learning, and community safety. The final batch of approved projects were recommended to the Executive Board for consideration. • The community safety delivery group also looked to ensure that the funding allocated to it from the central CDRP pot was fully committed with particular focus on youth diversionary projects in the hot spot areas of Ludlow and Bridgnorth.
<p>Action Points and Key Dates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southern Shropshire Partnership Executive Board - 2nd March and 17th June • SSP Forum, open to all partners and members of the public, 9th March at the Severn Centre, Highley, and 23rd March at Craven Arms Community Centre. • SSP Delivery Group meetings various dates during May. Details available from www.shrop.net/shropshirepartnership and click on Area Partnerships • SS Business Forum, supported through the Economy & Lifelong Learning Delivery Group and open to all involved in business across southern Shropshire, 21st April at Westgate, Bridgnorth. <p>For more information please contact Ben Walker, Southern Area Partnership Officer on ben.walker@shropshire.gov.uk / 01746 713246</p>

Northern Area Partnership

<p>Key Facts</p>	<p>The last meeting of the NSP Executive Board in November 2009 discussed the LAA performance reports for northern Shropshire, the development and management of social housing and the draft Sustainable Communities strategy. It received updates from its Delivery Groups and decisions were</p>
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	<p>made on a number of applications for funding including those aimed at delivering services for vulnerable families, further education training in north Shropshire and community-led plans. The funding commitment has reached £99K and applications have been received and recommendations made, which should enable the remaining budget to be committed at the next meeting in March.</p> <p>The following delivery groups met during the last three months:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Economic Forum and the Markets Towns Group have been discussing the way in which their activity complements each other and the need for the MTG to continue developing its action plan that reflects the priorities of individual towns as well as more generic issues. • The Stronger and Healthier Delivery Group is focussing its attention on community based health initiatives and the importance of these being targeted across the area without duplication. The role of the voluntary sector in delivering services and increasing access to services is recognised as being incredibly valuable, needing support and benefitting from partnership working. • The Community Safety Delivery Group will now be meeting bi-monthly and will continue to use data to ensure that resources are targeted effectively and that multi-agency groups are set up and tasked appropriately. The meetings at the end of the year also looked at decisions on the CDRP budget, with funding given to youth diversionary activities across the area and crime prevention resources that can be distributed by the police and the community working team at PACTs and community events.
<p>Action Points and Key Dates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSP Executive Board meeting - 1st March at 2pm at The Qube, Oswestry, where the Board will discuss the future of partnership working in northern Shropshire and make decisions on applications seeking funding from the remainder of the 09/10 budget. • Community Safety Delivery Group - 10th March at 2pm at Edinburgh House, Wem. The Group will be discussing its action plan for the coming year, receiving updates on the activities of the various multi-agency groups linked to it and reviewing the projects it has funded through the CDRP budget. • North Shropshire Economic Forum - 9th March at 5.30pm at Hawkstone Hall. As well as being a networking and information sharing opportunity, the forum will be discussing economic development in market towns, the local development framework, skills for employability and receiving updates on the partnership working projects it is supporting. All businesses with an interest in the area are very welcome to attend. • Stronger and Healthier Delivery Group meeting - 23rd March at 2.30pm at the Woodlands Centre, Tilley Green, Wem. Members of the group will continue to investigate the opportunities for the voluntary sector to deliver community based health initiatives and the impact of the Transforming Adult Social Care agenda on both service users and providers.

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children and Young People's Delivery Group meeting - 26th March at 12.30 at Shawbury Village Hall. The development of this year's northern Shropshire Youth Summit will be discussed.• Sustainable Communities Delivery Group meeting - 27th April at 2.30pm at Shawbury Village Hall.• Northern Shropshire Market Towns Group - 11th May – venue TBC. Members of the group will be reviewing the progress of its action plan. |
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For more information please contact Sue Last, Northern Area Partnership Officer on sue.last@shropshire.gov.uk / 01939 237427